

AUTHORIZING THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR TO
ISSUE A PATENT IN FEE TO LAURA A. CRAIG

JULY 10, 1951.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered
to be printed

Mr. MORRIS, from the Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany H. R. 3840]

The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 3840) authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent in fee to Laura A. Craig, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

The bill authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent in fee to Mrs. Laura A. Craig for 18.08 acres of her land on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, Mont. No appropriation of Federal funds is required.

The land covered by this legislation is adjacent to East Glacier Park town site and its alienation would not adversely affect the consolidation and use of land by Indians.

It appears that Mrs. Craig is well qualified to conduct her affairs without governmental supervision. The Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs therefore unanimously reports and urges the passage of the bill.

The favorable report of the Department of the Interior reads as follows:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
Washington D. C., June 27, 1951.

Hon. JOHN R. MURDOCK,
Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs,
House of Representatives.

MY DEAR MR. MURDOCK: Reference is made to your request for a report on H. R. 3840, a bill authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent in fee to Laura A. Craig.

I recommend that the bill be enacted.

The bill would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Interior to issue a patent in fee to Laura A. Craig for a portion of her homestead allotment No. 720 on the Blackfeet Indian Reservation, described as lot 6, sec. 19, T. 31 N., R. 12 W., principal meridian, Montana, containing 18.08 acres. This tract is adjacent to East Glacier Park town site and its alienation would not affect unfavorably the consolidation and use of land by Indians.

The enactment of legislation is necessary to permit the issuance of the patent in fee because the act of June 30, 1919 (41 Stat. 16), provides that "of the lands so allotted 80 acres of each allotment shall be designated as a homestead by the allottee and be evidenced by a trust patent and shall remain inalienable and nontaxable until Congress shall otherwise direct."

It appears that Mrs. Craig is a competent person well able to conduct her business affairs without supervision by the Federal Government.

The Bureau of the Budget has advised that there is no objection to the submission of this report to your committee.

Sincerely yours,

DALE E. DOTY,
Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

